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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7216

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	Confirmation No.: 8997
Takao HASEGAWA et al.)	
)	Group Art Unit: 3728
Application No.: 10/530,563)	
)	Examiner: S. Reynolds
Filed: April 7, 2005)	
)	Mail Stop AF
For: STAPLE CASE)	

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(c) but on or before the payment of the issue fee for the above-identified application. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), a fee of \$180.00, as specified by § 1.17(p) is due for filing this IDS. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this \$180.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in an Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application on February 4, 2008, and not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

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A copy of the Japanese Office Action, an English-language translation, and listed references cited therein, are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents listed:

1. JP 2002-200575: The relevance of this document can be ascertained from the English-language Abstract, English-language translation of the Japanese Office Action, and the figures therein.

2. JP 2000-354980: The relevance of this document can be ascertained from the English-language Abstract, the English-language translation of the Japanese Office Action, and the figures therein.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

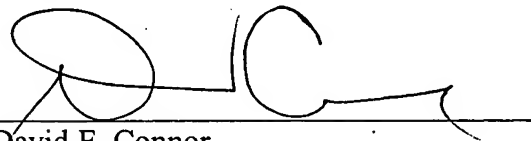
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


David E. Connor
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Dated: April 16, 2008

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